



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 - 2733

MAY - 3 2017



Mr. Butch Tongate, Secretary
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502

RE: Approval of the *Total Maximum Daily Load for Escherichia coli for the Santa Fe River*

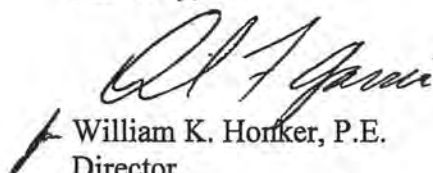
Dear Mr. Tongate:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has received the New Mexico Surface Water Quality Bureau's request for EPA review and approval of the final document titled *Santa Fe River E. coli Total Maximum Daily Loads* (henceforth, 'Final Report'). EPA received the final document and submission letter on April 18, 2017. The Final Report includes total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for *Escherichia coli*.

Based on our review, we conclude that the TMDLs contained in the Final Report meet the requirements found in Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and the implementing regulations found at 40 CFR § 130.7. The EPA is pleased to approve the TMDLs contained in the Final Report as summarized in the enclosed table. The EPA also acknowledges that these TMDLs will be incorporated as updates to the State of New Mexico Water Quality Management Plan and the Continuing Planning Process (WQMP/CPP).

We appreciate the opportunity to work closely with the SWQB, and we commend you and your staff for the considerable effort that went into developing these TMDLs. If you would like to discuss these approvals, please contact me at (214) 665-7101 or Laura Hunt of my staff at (214) 665-9729.

Sincerely,


William K. Honker, P.E.
Director
Water Division

Enclosure

cc: Lynette Guervara, NMED, Assessment and TMDL Team
Kris Barrios, NMED Acting Program Manager
Monitoring, Assessment & Standards Section
John Verheul, NMED, Office of General Counsel

Enclosure: Summary Tables for the *Total Maximum Daily Load for the Santa Fe River*

Table 1. TMDLs for Santa Fe River (Cienega Creek to the Santa Fe WWTP)

	Low Flow Condition (cfu/day)	High Flow Condition (cfu/day)
Waste Load Allocation (WLA)		
Santa Fe WWTP (NM0022292) Current	3.1×10^{10}	3.1×10^{10}
Santa Fe WWTP (NM0022292) Future	3.1×10^{10}	3.1×10^{10}
Santa Fe sMS4 (NMR04000)	-- (a)	1.6×10^{10}
Load Allocation (LA)	3.7×10^9	3.0×10^{10}
Margin of Safety (MOS 10%)	7.3×10^9	1.2×10^{10}
<i>E. coli</i> TMDL (cfu/day)	7.3×10^{10}	1.2×10^{11}

Note: (a) sMS4 allocations are not applicable during "Low Flow" conditions

Table 2. TMDLs for Santa Fe River (Santa Fe WWTP to Guadalupe Street)

	Low Flow Condition (cfu/day)	Mid-Range Flow Condition (cfu/day)	High Flow Condition (cfu/day)
Waste Load Allocation (WLA)			
Santa Fe sMS4 (NMR04000)	--(a)	-- (a)	2.2×10^{10}
Load Allocation (LA)	2.6×10^9	1.6×10^{10}	7.7×10^9
Margin of Safety (MOS 10%)	2.9×10^8	1.8×10^9	3.3×10^9
<i>E. coli</i> TMDL (cfu/day)	2.9×10^9	1.8×10^{10}	3.3×10^{10}

Note: (a) sMS4 allocations are not applicable during "Low Flow" or "Mid-Range" conditions

Table 3 TMDLs for Santa Fe River (Guadalupe Street to Nichols Reservoir)

	Low Flow Condition (cfu/day)	HighFlow Condition (cfu/day)
Waste Load Allocation (WLA)		
Santa Fe sMS4 (NMR04000)	--(a)	2.4×10^9
Load Allocation (LA)	1.7×10^9	1.4×10^{10}
Margin of Safety (MOS 10%)	1.9×10^8	1.8×10^9
<i>E. coli</i> TMDL (cfu/day)	1.9×10^9	1.8×10^{10}

Note: (a) sMS4 allocations are not applicable during "Low Flow" conditions